

CIRCULAR, }
No. 10. }

SURGEON GENERAL'S OFFICE,

August 25, 1862.

I..Immediately upon receipt of this circular, the Medical Officers of the Regular Army, and the Surgeons and Assistant Surgeons of Volunteers, will report by letter to this office their stations, or the duties to which they are assigned, and hereafter will report promptly any orders involving change of station, reporting the date of their departure and that of their arrival at their new station.

Upon the last day of every month a similar report will be made.

II..The Surgeon General directs that official letters addressed to him by Medical Officers of the Army be written on letter paper, (quarto post;) also, that the letter be folded in three equal folds, parallel with the writing, and endorsed on that fold which corresponds with the top of the sheet—1st, with name of place where written, and date; 2d, name and rank of writer; and 3d, analysis of contents.

All official communications relating to the business of the Medical Inspector's Department will be sent, under cover, to the Surgeon General, marked on the cover "Medical Inspector's Department."

III..In accordance with a recent act of Congress, the Corps of Brigade Surgeons becomes the Corps of Surgeons and Assistant Surgeons of Volunteers. The official designation and signature of these officers hereafter will be "Surgeons or Assistant Surgeons of Volunteers," as the case may be.

IV..Hereafter copies of all contracts made with physicians by Medical Directors or others will be immediately sent to this office.

All physicians employed on contract by the Medical Department will provide their own surgical instruments. Such instruments may be procured from Medical Purveyors, their value to be deducted from the pay of the physician procuring them within the first three months after contract. The Medical Purveyors issuing instruments to contract physicians will immediately notify this office of the fact, and the money value of the instruments furnished.

V..Physicians employed on contract will be paid on duplicate accounts in the usual form, certified to by the Medical Director, commanding officer, or surgeon in charge of hospital where service charged for was

performed. These accounts will be sent to this office for approval, from whence they will be sent to the Treasury Department, by which certificates of indebtedness will be issued on which Medical Purveyors or other disbursing officers are authorized to pay. Officers certifying to such accounts will state whether or no the services were performed in the field, and whether the instruments were duly provided.

VI..Civil nurses employed on contract will be paid by Medical Purveyors on rolls certified to by Surgeons in charge of hospitals or Medical Directors. Their pay will be \$20 50 per month, and they will receive one ration per day, and the same allowance of clothing as a private soldier of infantry. Two dollars of their pay per month will be retained until the expiration of their term of service; the fact of such money having been retained being endorsed on the back of the contract. Their clothing will be issued to them by medical officers—the clothing account being kept in the manner prescribed by regulations for the soldier. On the contract shall be endorsed all facts ordinarily endorsed upon the descriptive list of a soldier

VII..Acting Medical Cadets will in no instance be mustered or paid as contract nurses. The attention of all medical officers employing Acting Medical Cadets is called to this prohibition of a practice fraudulent in itself and degrading to the office of the Medical Cadet.

VIII..The want of printed blanks is no valid excuse for not making the Requisitions, Returns, and Reports required by Regulations. When there are no printed blanks, the style, classification, order, and nomenclature of the Supply Table, and of the prescribed forms, will be observed. Copies of Medical Regulations and printed blanks for Requisitions, Returns, and Reports of Sick and Wounded, may be procured by application to the Medical Director; Hospital Muster Rolls and Certificates of Disability for Discharge, by application to the Surgeon General.

IX..Many medical officers, both regular and volunteers, have partially disregarded previous circulars issued from this office. These circulars are explanatory orders, and, in future, officers neglecting to comply with their directions will be proceeded against for disobedience of orders.

WM. A. HAMMOND,
Surgeon General.